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AUG 22 2006

Application No.: 09/922,092

Docket No.: JCLA6561-R2

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christiansen et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,983,302; hereinafter Christiansen) in view of Arramreddy et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,826,644; hereinafter Arramreddy). Claims 1-8 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christiansen in view of Arramreddy. Applicant respectively traverses the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

1. As previously mentioned, the present invention is directed to a method of bus priority arbitration driven by data used in a bus system. The bus system comprises a bus and a plurality of masters connected to the bus. Each master can output a request for a grant to use the bus. In order to have better efficiency, the present invention responds to the request of each master according to a predefined orderly rotation. Then, the response to *the requests of the master stops according to the predefined orderly rotation when a data for one of the masters is ready.*

More specifically, the master, *which is ready in preparing data and wait for the grant to use the bus, is attributed a highest priority to access the bus.*

In other words, the present invention does not treat the master by equal priority, based on

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robin arbitration scheme, as described by Christiansen. Although Arramreddy is cited by the Office Action for combination, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

2. In re Christiansen, as clearly described in the examples (col. 6, lines 16-26), when master devices A and B are requesting access, the rotating access with non-priority (that is, equal priority) between master devices A and B by the arrows 1 and 6 by the rotating fixed sequence. Similarly, when master devices A, C and E are requesting access, the rotating access with non-priority between master devices A, C and E by the arrows 11, [[13]]15 (here, 13 should be 15. "13" is not shown in FIG. 3 and is a typo error), and 5 by the rotating fixed sequence.

Therefore, Christiansen at least does not disclose the features of the present invention, as discussed above. Arramreddy is further cited in combination.

3. In re Arramreddy, (Fig. 2; Fig. 3; col. 4, lines 4-37), apparently, all mater devices are assigned with priority level according to the logic as shown in Fig. 3. In other words, Arramreddy is not based on the sequentially response to the mater devices in requesting access.

In other words, if the combination made, Arramreddy will totally change the mechanism in Christiansen. The combination is improper.

Even if the combination is made, each of all of the master devices A-E of Christiansen, belonging to "first priority", is separately assigned with a priority level by the way of Fig. 3 of Arramreddy. The access in "rotating fixed sequence" required by Christiansen is destroyed. Further, Arramreddy does not disclose the features of the present invention. Therefore, even if the combination is made, the present invention is still not disclosed.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 7 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 2-6 and 8 patently define over the prior art references as well.

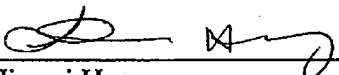
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-8 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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